

Message Text

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22

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 /029 W

----- 031053

R 111656Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6405

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, GW, WB

SUBJ: CIVAIR - GERMAN TOUR OPERATOR "EXPRESS

FLUGREISEN" FOLDS UNEXPECTEDLY

1. EXPRESS FLUGREISEN FRANKFURT/MAIN, THE LARGEST SPECIALIZED GERMAN TOUR OPERATOR IN THE FRG FOR SHORT-TERM INTER-CITY TOURS BY AIR, SHUT DOWN ALL ACTIVITIES FEBRUARY 6.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE DECISION BY THE EXPRESS FLUGREISEN MANAGEMENT TO SHUT DOWN WAS A SURPRISE TO THE TRADE AS THE OPERATOR'S 1975 TURN-OVER WAS ABOUT DM 50 MILLION. SEVERAL THOUSAND TOURISTS ARE REPORTEDLY OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY, AWAITING RETURN TRANSPORTATION. THE OPERATOR HAD SPECIALIZED IN THREE TO FOUR DAY TOURS TO EUROPEAN CAPITALS, A BRANCH OF AVIATION TOURISM WHICH HAS BECAME VERY POPULAR IN THE FRG IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.

3. IN BERLIN, A BRITISH CARRIER (DANAI) MAY BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THIS DEVELOPMENT. THE

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CARRIER HAD REPORTEDLY FLOWN A SERIES OF TRIPS

NOT YET PAID FOR AND HAD COMMITTED A NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT TO A LONG-TERM PROGRAM, A SITUATION WHICH COULD RESULT IN A LOSS OF DM 2 MILLION IN REVENUES. AEROAMERICA HAD SIGNED A CONTRACT FOR THREE SERIES OF FLIGHTS, TOTALLING 83 ROUND TRIP OPERATION WITH B-720 AIRCRAFT, BUT NONE OF THESE FLIGHTS HAD AS YET BEEN FLOWN. WHEN A CARRIER REP WITHDREW THESE PENDING APPLICATIONS WITH THE EMBASSY FEBRUARY 11, HE INDICATED THAT NO OTHER TOUR OPERATOR SO FAR WAS PREPARED TO PICK UP THE PROGRAMS.

CROWLEY

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